

ABSTRACT

An optical sheet has a large number of cylindrical lens elements provided successively on one of principal faces thereof. The cylindrical lens elements have a finite focal distance on the emission side of illumination light and have an aspheric face of a leftwardly and rightwardly symmetric sectional shape. Where a Z axis is taken in parallel to a normal line direction to the optical sheet and an X axis is taken in a direction of the row of the cylindrical lens elements, a cross sectional shape of the cylindrical lens elements satisfies

$$Z = X^2 / (R + \sqrt{R^2 - (1 + K)X^2}) + AX^4 + BX^5 + CX^6 + \dots$$

(where R is the radius of curvature of a distal end vertex, K is a conic constant, and A, B, C, ... are aspheric coefficients).